CAB Announces Pete Davidson as FebFest Comedian

The Spectator

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PHOTO BY JULIAN PERRICONE '20

Students converse over the dinner portion of the DMC's MLK event.

SHINE volunteers tutoring at sites in Utica, new and old

by Haley Lynch '17
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Opportunities for Hamilton College students are opening up in Utica this semester. After a brief hiatus the Madison-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) Adult and Continuing Education program in Utica, which offers a range of educational and support services to agencies throughout the city as needed, is readmitting volunteers to work with adults. These will include several Project SHINE tutors from Hamilton College. Also this semester, SHINE will help expand Hamilton's presence, which began last spring, at the Utica Academy of Science Charter School (UASCS), by contributing English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) volunteer tutors to a Saturday morning program that will help ESOL students at the charter school with their homework.

These relationships in Utica are particularly important in the wake of a change in what had been Hamilton's accustomed volunteer sites of more than 10 years in the Utica City School District and in connection with the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees (MVRCR). Last spring, when The Spectator interviewed the Director of Community Outreach Amy James about these changes, she noted that the changes in Hamilton's programming were a result of shifts in volunteering protocols at Utica schools—not decisions made by Hamilton.

Sources connected to the SHINE program, which had been sending volunteers to those locations, indicate that much of the change was related to discontentment in the wake of the publication of an unauthorized project by a Hamilton College student who had been volunteering as a SHINE tutor through the MVRCR. Since that time, both the MVRCR Volunteer Contract and the Levitt Center SHINE Volunteer Expectations Agreement forms have been updated to include stipulations against "unauthorized research."

see ***Hamilton****, page 2*

Students teach the teachers at MLK Jr. Dinner hosted by DMC

by Rylee Carrillo-Wagner '19
NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday, Jan. 28, students, faculty and staff joined together in the Fillus Events Barn for a dinner honoring Martin Luther King Jr. The event did not stop with the meal. A collaborative effort between Professor Margo Okazawa-Rey and Director of Opportunity Programs and Interim Director of Diversity and Inclusion Phyllis Breland, hosted by the Days-Massolo Center, this MLK Jr. dinner had a second component to it, called "Teaching the Teachers." Okazawa-Rey explains, "Intergenerational dialogues and learning were an important strand in the 1960s '70s Civil Rights movement: Since then we have strayed a bit, especially because of age-segregation. My goal is for us to reconnect intergenerationally—where we are are engaging in genuine, reciprocal teaching and learning, talking and listening." So after dinner, the group was split into two groups. One group learned slang words while the other learned new dance moves. Then the two groups switched. At the end, everyone joined back together to share their new knowledge.

Okazawa-Rey spoke to the thought behind the creation of the event, noting, "The idea came to me when I realized how out of touch I was with popular youth culture, even though I'm teaching and learning with 18 to 22-year-olds! Another thought was that we, faculty, get to see our students mostly unidimensionally, usually in our classes, and know very little about who they are outside class: their leisurely activities, how they talk with one another in casual conversation, the latest social media and dances and music. As a way to get to know my students better, to learn a part of their culture as youth, and to be able to learn from them, the idea of Teach the Teachers emerged. Of course, I checked out the idea with colleagues and students, at Hamilton and beyond, who all seemed to light up at the idea."

And upon reflection, many participants showed a similar appreciation for the event. Jeff McArn commented, "It was a great way to gather the community together, learn some dance moves together and pick up some slang from the NYC boroughs. It's an awesomely interactive event that helps us build community, which is something we desperately need to do more of at Hamilton College. There are lots of opportunities for friend groups, interest groups, like-minded identity collectives to be together." Nancy Thompson, Vice President and Dean of Students, agreed, saying "I really enjoyed the dinner on Saturday. I had a chance to meet new people, students and faculty, over a lovely dinner with good conversation. I learned some new dance moves and vocabulary and laughed a great deal in the process. It was a great night. I hope we'll do more events like this in the future," to which student Caroline Kreidberg '17 added, "I'm grateful to the students who were kind and generous enough to volunteer their time to 'teach the teachers' and other students. Overall, it was certainly a unique event idea," and Polly Bruce '17 mentioned, "I really enjoyed the experience — I wasn't sure what the entire program would entail, but I was pleasantly surprised that it was able to incorporate everything from dialogue to dancing to connecting via social media. I felt that it was very important to bring together professors and students in a casual setting such as this and hope there will be more events like this one in the future!"

To the hosts, collaborators and participants, this fun night clearly had a deeper purpose. Okazawa-Rey reflects on its impact in relation to a large political scope, saying, "These are very pain

see ***MLK****, page 3*

Hamilton College creates search committee for new Dean of Students

by Ilana Schwartz '17
SENIOR EDITOR

Last spring, former president Joan Hinde Stewart announced the retirement of Nancy Thompson, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, at the end of the 2016-2017 academic year. Dean Thompson joined the Hamilton community in July 1986 as assistant dean of students and became Dean of Students in 2005.

With the retirement of Dean Thompson quickly approaching, the search for her replacement has picked up. The first step in the process was the selection of the committee that will spearhead the search. Karen Brewer chairs the search committee and will be working with Phyllis Breland '80, David Dacres '18, Audrey Darnis '18, Travis Hill, Jon Hind '80, Monica Inzer, Herm Lehman and Art Massolo '64 over the next several months to find Dean Thompson's successor. President Wippman chose members of the search committee after soliciting recommendations from members of the Board of Trustees, Student Assembly, faculty and other members of senior staff.

The president's office selected Isaacson Miller, a higher education consulting firm, to assist in the search for the new Dean of Students. Isaacson Miller has significant experience in student affairs searches for residential liberal arts colleges and even assisted with the presidential search last year, bringing Wippman to the Hill. The firm also assisted Amherst College, Bates College, Colby College, Smith College and Swarthmore College with recent student affairs searches. Isaacson Miller Vice President Ponneh Varho and Managing Assistant Natalie Leonhard will be the main assistants to the search committee.

On Jan. 18, Isaacson Miller representatives visited the Hill to get input about the search from Hamilton's student body. They met with various student groups and facilitated conversations in order to understand Hamilton's culture and what students look and hope for in the administration, specifically in their Dean of Students. The information gathered from their visit will help them write a position profile, which will be posted on the Hamilton website and distributed to recruiting sites to get as many applications as possible.

Once the profile is written, Isaacson Miller will begin recruiting and vetting candidates. They will target administrators from other schools in order to build the best possible candidate pool, which is why confidentiality is crucial throughout the process. The Hamilton search committee will begin reading applications in March and narrowing the list of candidates throughout April. At the end of April, the final candidates will come to the Hill for interviews and the candidate selected will be announced before the end of the semester.

Although Dean Thompson is not on the search committee, she trusts that the person selected to fill her role "will enjoy working with students and be committed to our residential liberal arts mission." Dean Thompson advises her successor to "engage students in addressing campus issues and developing new programs."

Hamilton volunteers spending more time in Utica this semester

*from **SHINE**, page 1*

With these updates, relationships with the MVRCR have been improving, according to one of the teachers in the program Professor John Bartle, and Hamilton volunteers are now involved with several sites in Utica.

BOCES underwent a variety of institutional changes that resulted in a "moratorium on all volunteer work" last year, according to the Director of Continuing Education at the local BOCES ACCESS site in Utica, Kathleen Rinaldo, who went on to explain that after considering several other options, the BOCES program in Utica will be bringing in volunteers to help tutor adults in their ESOL classrooms again starting this semester. "We have always had a very good experience with SHINE students," she commented, "and we're happy to continue the relationship between BOCES Adult Education division and Hamilton College." Professor Bartle confirmed that three students will volunteer at BOCES this semester through SHINE.

Meanwhile, other tutoring volunteer opportunities are opening up for Hamilton College students in Utica. Amy James of the COOP explained that the Young People's Project started coordinating math tutoring services last spring, and that other programs have been expanding since then to include tutoring in reading. James is "hoping to get the science students at Hamilton involved in helping out soon, too."

The UASCS opened for grades 6-9 in 2013 and added a high school division four years ago, so 2017 will bring their first graduating class. Last semester, Barbara Britt-Hysell, the coordinator of the ESOL program at Hamilton as well as a course instructor who helps train students in ESOL tutoring, sent several students from her class to help tutor some of the senior ESOL students at UASCS who needed help passing State Regents Exams in order to graduate this year.

The tutors were eager to praise the students they worked with as well as the teachers in the ESOL program at UASCS. "The teachers were committed to them [the students] and the students were committed to the school," said Sarah Hogoboom '17. "I will always think of my experience at UASCS positively, and hope that the students gained as much as I did." Jonna Dowling, one of the ESOL teachers at the school, added that "with 50 [ESOL students] at the high school, and 15 in the middle school, all with such varying needs, it's really hard to have them all in one classroom. I'm so excited that we will have more college students to make sure that these kids get all the help they need." This semester, at least 12 students will be working at the UASCS site. Professor Bartle commented: "We're really looking forward to growing this nascent relationship between Hamilton and the charter school."

While these opportunities are wonderful, overall volunteering numbers in Utica are still down compared to former years as a result of the rift between Hamilton College and the Utica City School District, a fact which many familiar with the situation hope can be changed in the future.

Men's hockey hosts another successful Date Auction

PHOTO BY JADE THOMAS '20

Host Truman Landowski '17 1eads the bidding over his teammates.

by Emily Eisler '17
News Editor

Truman Landowski '17 hosted the Men's Hockey Date Auction sponsored by the Social Traditions Committee on Jan. 25. This was Landowski's third year hosting after serving as an auctioned date as well in previous years, a fact the host reminisced about by beginning the event by calling out the two women who had bought dates with him in both his first and second years. The event ended up raising $702 for the Young Civic Leaders Scholarship that the Hamilton College Philanthropy Committee started last year. The scholarship benefits a high school senior in the local community who has a record of community service and has committed to getting a higher education. Last year the scholarship gave $500 to its recipient who is currently enrolled at Mount Holyoke College.

The auction featured eight hockey players as well as their manager, Connor Sharkey '17. The host of the auction began each bidding war with a bio of each player he had prepared in advance, two of which featured video presentations. Two players, Sam Jones '20 and Sterling Bray '20 went for over $100 with the highest price of the night at $145. One junior player was pulled out of the crowd at the request of his fellow audience members to be bid on at the end of the event. The rest of the team watched from the balcony of the Filius Events Barn, sometimes participating in rehearsed bits with the hosts to showcase and make jokes about the dates.

Students who attended the event had nothing but praise for the organizers and especially the host. "In my four years at Hamilton no event has had a better host than Truman Landowski," applauded Carly Harten '17, who praised the event for giving to such a good cause as well. "Two words: Truman Landowski. Also, the cinematic components combined with the auctioned dates' overall talents and abilities made this date auction the most memorable experience of my Hamilton College career," stated Sarah Duncan '17.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Emily Eisler '17
News Editor

Maine NESCAC schools stand in solidarity with nation's immigrants

The leaders of Colby College, Bowdoin College and Bates College all issued statements denouncing President Trump's immigration order on Monday Jan. 30. Bates President Clayton Spencer's statement read, "We are appalled by the executive order and the inhumane manner in which it is being implemented. The order flies in the face of fundamental American values, and it is particularly threatening to international students and faculty, as well as individuals from recent immigrant families." Clayton Rose, Bowdoin's president, made similar remarks that members of their campus community would receive protection from the school in any way possible. Colby's statement declared that they would "support and protect the rights of all members of our community."

Amherst College community stages walkout protesting immigration ban

On Wednesday Feb. 1, Amherst College students, faculty and staff held a walkout in order to bring attention to demands for the school's administration to condemn the recent actions of President Trump involving his immigration executive order as well as declare their commitment to protecting immigrant members of the campus community. The organizers of the walkout also wanted to express solidarity with the groups affected by the ban. Amherst College President Carolyn Martin has issued a statement that the college will do "everything within the limits of the law" to protect their students. However, many students feel that this is not enough and less detailed compared to other colleges' statements on the issue.

Bowdoin College home to maritime governance workshop

Recently, the student center at Connecticut College installed three new feminine hygiene product dispensers, free of charge to all who use them, in the building's women's and gender neutral bathrooms. More will be installed throughout the campus soon, starting with two in the library. The project is funded through the Student Government Association as well as support from the administration. Emma Horst-Martz, a junior at the college, approached the school administration with the idea of free menstrual products on campus last year. She continues to work with the administration as they move forward with the program.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Guest sociology professor speaks about the medicalization of autism

by Sarah Salimi '20
News Contributor

On Thursday, Jan. 26, Hamilton College's Sociology Department hosted a lecture delivered by Dr. Benjamin DiCicco-Bloom, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and has been a visiting assistant Professor on the Hill for three years. The talk, entitled "The Medicalization of Autism: Simplifications and Distortions of the Disease Narrative," was centered around his book, Adults with Autism: Life in the Midst of Medicalization, which continues the work he began for his dissertation. He undertook a longitudinal ethnographic study over the course of six years, conducting interviews with families who had adult members with autism and living in their homes for 3-8 day spans, silently observing their interactions both within and outside the domestic sphere. This study was based on individuals with severe cognitive impairments, as DiCicco-Bloom considers it vital to communicate the experiences of those who cannot do so themselves.

DiCicco-Bloom's work deconstructs the cultural narrative surrounding autism and rigorously analyzes how this discursive framework has shaped not just social perception of this condition, but also clinical approaches to it. Particularly, he problematizes the phenomenon of medicalization, "the process by which human conditions are described and responded to as if they were a disease." The rhetorical implications of medicalization are such that autistic individuals of all ages are generally assumed to be degenerate, disabled, and/or unwell. Besides reducing the lived experiences of people with autism in an ethically problematic, presumptuous fashion, this definition has encouraged a variety of social actors within government, institutions of academic science, the medical field, nonprofit organizations, etc. to pour all of their altruistic efforts into finding a cure, or a series of cures, for autism. According to DiCicco-Bloom, this "search for a cure, a major element of the medical narrative, undermines understanding of the actual challenges and opportunities that adults with autism, their families, and others face in securing long-term support for those with the condition."

DiCicco-Bloom believes swapping a medicalized narrative for an ecological approach provides a fuller understanding of the richness of the lives of adults with autism. This perspective places the lives of autistic adults within their respective social contexts, focusing on the interplay between individuals and the various actors and institutions that make up their social landscapes. This frame of analysis depicts autistic adults as they truly are: nuanced individuals who seek to navigate various challenges over their lives. As such, one major benefit of the ecological approaches is that facilitating individualization reduces the cultural stigma surrounding this condition. Additionally, seeing autism embedded in a sociological world brings exposure to the lives and experiences of adults with autism, dismantling the myth that autism is a child's condition. By shifting the dialogue towards an understanding of individuals with autism, society will perhaps better understand the dynamics and difficulties, as well as the triumphs, that go into supporting autistic adults over their lives.

In the long term, increased awareness can shift attention towards developing public policies that ameliorate the quality, efficiency and affordability of care for people with autsim.

In employing this ecological approach, DiCicco-Bloom discovered that the research process was that much more rich and fulfilling. He uncovered two categories of challenges that autistic adults and their support networks face: barriers to communication and management concerns. Because autistic individuals often have behavioral and sensory atypicalities, it can be difficult to communicate desires, preferences, discomforts, etc. to caregivers , which results in mutual frustration. Secondly, he uncovered the difficulty of coordinating the pluralistic interactions that autistic individuals have with caregivers, a task that usually falls upon parents. Not only is this task laborious, complex, and time-intensive, but in the case of ineffective management, the health of the autistic individual might be seriously compromised (particularly because he or she is usually incapable of communicating his or her needs).

Looking forward, DiCicco-Bloom believes that bringing together medicalization literature and disabilities studies literature will put the medicalization narrative in conversation with the ecological paradigm, resulting in a more sophisticated understanding of the condition of adult autism. Ideally, it will also humanize these individuals by validating their lived experiences.

MLK Jr. Dinner brings together Hamilton's community

*from **MLK**, page 1*

ful and some horrific political times. The event was an example of collective self-care where we could come together to laugh and play." McArn re-emphasizes Hamilton's need for a strengthened sense of community, stating, "Dr. King stood for a lot of things, but nothing was a higher priority for him than the vision of the 'beloved community,' an intentional coming together in spite of, and because of, significant differences. It would be good for our Hamilton community to commit ourselves to this core value of the beloved community, and work on creating an environment of trust among us."

PHOTO BY JULIAN PERRICONE '20

Students, staff and faculty share a meal in unity at the Events Barn.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Friday January 27, 2017

4:45 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

6:46 P.M. Smoke Detector – Griffin Road Apts.

10:00 P.M. Theft of Service – Off Campus

Saturday January 28, 2017

12:19 A.M. Medical Emergency – Bristol Center

12:45 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

1:04 A.M. Disorderly Conduct – Bundy East

3:46 A.M. Area Check – Root Lot

7:30 A.M. Check Welfare – Residence Hall

11:28 P.M. Marijuana Complaint – Wertimer House

11:49 P.M. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall

Sunday January 29, 2017

12:03 A.M. Suspicious Person – Bristol Center

1:29 A.M. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall

1:32 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

1:38 A.M. Area Check – College Hill Road

3:05 A.M. Smoke Detector – Dunham Hall

EDITORIAL

Hamilton's response to exective orders

On Friday, January 27, President Trump signed an executive order banning the entry of citizens from seven Muslim majority countries. The order also suspended the US refugee program for six months and the Syrian refugees program indefinitely. The executive order has been met with a swift and fierce reaction from the many who viewed it as a discriminatory policy. The order was also viewed as contradictory to American's promise of humanitarian leadership.

Like many institutions across the United States, the Hamilton community quickly expressed their concerns regarding the discriminatory policies put in place by Trump's order. On January 30, President David Wippman addressed these concerns in a school-wide email and acknowledged that the restrictions implemented by the executive order are "[inconsistent] with some of our community's core values." He then discussed the college's response to the order during the Facebook Live Q & A with Senior Class President Silvia Radulescu '17 the following day.

In his addresses to the school, President Wippman has pledged not to change the school's admission or hiring policies. He has also assured the community that the college does not and will not share a student's immigration status unless legally compelled. Furthermore, he reports that the school is looking into legal support for students impacted by the order if necessary. In a discussion with the International Student Association on February 2, he also discussed various options to support the general international student population at Hamilton.

International and Muslim community members constitute an invaluable part of Hamilton. Depriving these members from their basic rights to dignity, due process and religious freedom is a despicable act. *The Spectator* condemns these policies and their deviance from the founding principles of our republic. We stand in solidarity with our fellow students, professors and staff members who are affected by these decisions.

Letter to the Editor:

More than a quarter century ago, while working at another college, I was sent to meet a Somali and his family at the airport and bring them to their new home in the United States. It was a moving experience – one of the most profound of my life.

Suleiman had been unjustly imprisoned in his native country, held for years without being charged, tortured severely and ultimately sentenced to death. With support from Amnesty International, alumni from the college he attended as an international student, the State Department, the National Academy of Sciences and others, his sentence was commuted. Several years later, international pressure allowed him and his family to leave Somalia on the last plane out of Mogadishu before the government of dictator Siad Barre fell.

Somalia has not had a fully functioning government since, but years ago Suleiman returned to help rebuild his country. Most of his family remained in the U.S., including his daughter who works with abused women.

I had the chance to see Suleiman again in 2009 when several Hamilton faculty members graciously supported my request that he speak on campus. It was the last time I saw him, and despite the emails we exchange regularly, I fear that I will never see him again in light of President Trump's executive order. More disturbing, there's a chance his family members, living peacefully here in the U.S., will never see him again either.

My impressions of Somalis are formed by the direct interactions I've had with Suleiman, his family and his friends -- a perspective that is profoundly different from that portrayed in the media or, sadly, from some of our elected officials. The Somalis I know are warm, kind and generous. Tragically, more Americans will be deprived of forming their own opinions of this gracious people.

Sincerely,
Mike Debraggio

***The Spectator* editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.**

***The Spectator* is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board. A volunteer staff of students handles all aspects of the weekly publication. The purpose of the newspaper is to provide the Hamilton Community with an honest, fair, timely and high-quality publication.**

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Celebrating 168 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1848.*

The Spectator

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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FACE OFF:

FREE SPEECH IN AMERICA

The left has a duty to restrict certain kinds of speech

by Makayla Franks '19
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Against, perhaps, my better judgement, I recently attended a talk given by Kim Strassel, author of the book *The Intimidation Game: How the Left is Silencing Free Speech*. I didn't read the book ahead of time, but I had a general idea of how this was going to go just from the title alone.

The beginning of the event featured a Hamilton student introducing Strassel who claimed that Republicans are harassed for their views, ridiculed when speaking in public and blocked from taking part in debates. Additionally, the student said that these fears and accusations take place not only in the world at large, but also on Hamilton's campus. Frankly, this blew my mind. By silencing homophobic, racist and intolerant speech from the right, the left is trying to protect marginalized communities from this very ridicule and harassment to which Strassel refers. If you're looking for a conservative support system that condones this rhetoric, perhaps a liberal arts school wasn't the decision for you.

Alternatively, you can travel to literally anywhere else in the world and find a safe space for conservative thought. The same is not by any means true for marginalized communities, who are constantly made to feel their exclusion wherever they may be. The left has a duty to restrict speech that perpetuates this exclusion.

After that introduction (and with fundamental confusion already in mind), Strassel started her talk. She told a brief story about her children, which she used to lay out the differences in political opinions within her family, and then gave concrete examples of how the left was silencing free speech. All two of them.

Strassel said that in politics, money is a fill-in for free speech. As I understood it, she believes the "mean and cruel" political left wants to keep the money out of politics, which silences the right, who want to do well by their shareholders and corporations. I would ask: doesn't it seem suspicious that money needs to go into government by way of large donations from specific organizations?

What got me the most, however, was two points she made. She said campuses are now afraid of "intellectual diversity" on campus and try to shut it down. I agree with the notion that if we all thought the same thing, the world would be a much, much more boring place. However, when your "intellectual diversity" hinges on the historical and modern oppression and harassment (to put it lightly) of anyone who doesn't share your skin color, your sexual preferences and your gender, it's really not wanted.

Strassel brought up the protests held across campuses with regards to Trump's election. She pointed out that Tom Steyer, a billionaire Democrat, gives a ton of money towards environmental research and science programs to campuses across the country, including Stanford University, where he serves on the Board of Trustees. When she created the hypothetical point that no one could protest him because of a "fear of intellectual diversity," I think I audibly snorted.

The "violence" levelled against conservatives that Strassel cited pales in comparison to the real violence faced by those oppressed every day. I'm sorry for the loss of property from keyed cars and smashed windows of those who were brave enough to come out with misogynistic, homophobic and racist comments, but perhaps taking a walk through any history book will put your loss into perspective. The foundation of democracy in this country hinges on the silencing of true minority groups through gerrymandering, voter suppression, the school-to-prison pipeline and even murder.

So let's take this back to Hamilton's campus. When the children of those historically and modernly oppressed work as hard as they did to get here, academically, athletically or both, they are coming to a platform to discover themselves and find their own voice. They will be silenced once they leave the Hill, and they're even silenced while they are here as students. I am one of those people. So, sorry not sorry if you feel like you're oppressed, but I would genuinely be interested in finding some examples of true oppression of the right on this campus, because as far as I'm concerned it doesn't exist.

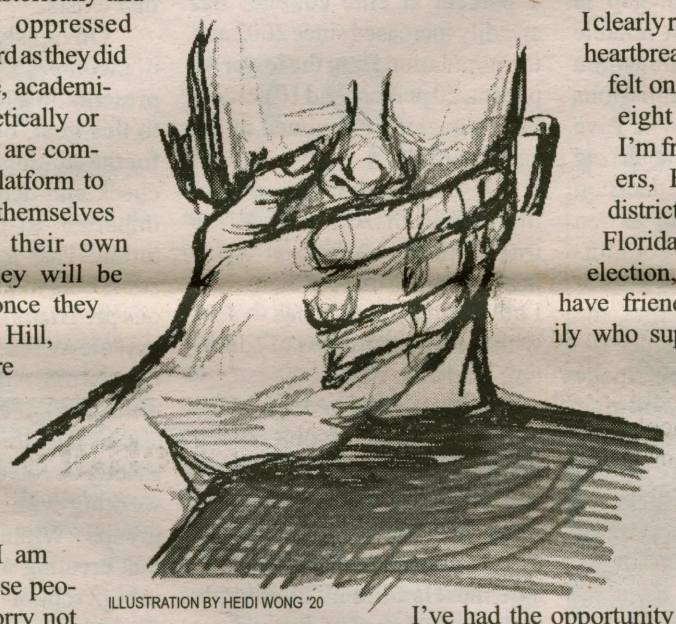


ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

If you want to stop feeling personally attacked, perhaps look to yourself and wonder if maybe your ideals could stand to change (the answer is most likely yes). But that's the difference: your "oppression" is more about your ideals, something you can change, while ours is based on inherent attributes that we cannot change. And, it should be noted, when we do try to have civil conversations about what's going on, the well known "sea-lioning" tactic comes out—infuriatingly playing stupid and asking you to explain even the smallest of details. It's designed to anger you, and that anger is the biggest delegitimization tool they have. Because, apparently, anger negates the validity of your points.

So for those of us who don't play along with this little "Instigation Game," we're obviously the irrational angry feminists who aren't willing to see reason. And that makes us the oppressors.

Maybe it's just "alternative oppression," as Kellyanne Conway might put it. But that's okay, Strassel told us that freedom of speech doesn't mean that you can't lie! So go on with your bad selves. Just know that a) none of us believe you, and b) freedom of speech also means we can call you on your nonsense.

The left's attack on free speech has serious consequences

by Gavin Meade '20
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Freedom of speech as we know it is under attack, and if one of the core tenets of our democracy falls, we all lose. Anyone with the faintest political awareness and common sense can see the stormy and polarized political climate in which we find ourselves in, and the left is largely to blame for this. That's right, I said the left is to blame. Take a deep breath and buckle up.

First, I want to make a few things perfectly clear. I'm a bleeding heart liberal and have been my entire life. I remember staying up late with my parents in 2008 and celebrating with them when Obama was elected, and I clearly remember the heartbreak and fear I felt on election day eight years later. I'm from Fort Myers, Florida. My district, like most of Florida in this past election, went red. I have friends and family who support Trump as well as friends and family who ardently campaigned against him.

I've had the opportunity to see firsthand the complications that politics can bring to a high school, social dynamics and family life.

Last Tuesday, I took to Facebook and did something that I haven't done in months: I wrote a post. I felt compelled to share my opinion. I wrote about the hate and intolerance in modern politics and how both sides of the aisle contribute to the ongoing schism in this country. That post helped get me here, and if you're still reading, I'd encourage you to hang on with me for just a little longer. Specifically, I want to focus on how the left silences those who oppose us, a tactic that jeopardizes freedom of speech and contributed directly to Trump's victory.

It'd be horribly uncouth of me to continue this article any longer without defining what I mean by "the left." For the purposes of this article, the left encompasses those who identify as members of the Democratic Party and are passionate in their beliefs and viewpoints. This label is predominantly applied to individuals but can and will also apply to universities and the media through the course of this article.

It's not an unfair assumption that most of the people reading this see themselves as more left-leaning than right-leaning. Many of you probably took part in the marches after the election, or more recently, in the Women's March. What I'm about to say may offend you, and if it does, then I urge you to please attempt to rationally think it through rather than dismiss it. You are part of the problem; you are aiding and abetting the division in this country. On this campus, people who voted for Trump were ridiculed and verbally attacked on election night and in the days after. Many students feel unable to voice their opinions because of the overwhelmingly negative stereotypes associated with Trump voters. Things are not as black and white as they are made out to be. Not everyone who voted for Trump wants to ban Muslims from this country, just as not everyone who voted against him is a tree-hugger.

Many on the left hold the deeply counterproductive belief that we are different from those on the right because we possess greater basic humanity. But because we are so intolerant of anyone whose views differ from our own, we think that they must hate everyone who is not a white male with a strong socioeconomic background. This sense of condescension and hateful rhetoric against nearly half of the country is palpable. When has it ever been acceptable to look down on someone for their beliefs or political ideology? Why do we assume that just because Susan voted for Trump, or didn't vote for Clinton, that she's a deplorable human being?

Most people chose not to vote for Clinton because she offered no palpable change, not because they want to overturn the last eight years of social progress and return to darker days in American history. Trump represents a change—a terrifying change, but change nonetheless. Clinton on the other hand…not so much. She protected corporate interest and didn't report to anyone that questions from the debate were leaked to her in advance.

Our argument is not won by hurling labels or insults. The key here is discussion. If you are unable to have a discussion with someone who doesn't agree with you, then you're creating a situation in which someone like Donald Trump can be elected as the president of these "United" States. We have decided that any other opinion or way of looking at the world is unacceptable. If you're on the right, you're a racist—an outsider in the cultural zeitgeist. If you deviate even slightly from the prevailing view on what is considered acceptable or what is just, you are attacked for merely offering your opinion.

That is why people wait until they are in the voting booth to express themselves. In the booth there is no blame or shame; you can finally express your beliefs. That's why all of the polls and articles run by news outlets were so inaccurate. The left doesn't allow anyone to think differently; we've made people unable articulate their position.

If you disagree with me, I encourage you to engage with me rather than dismiss me. I'll close with a quote from a former Marine: "I pledged allegiance to the flag every morning inside an internment camp. I would never burn one, but I'd die to protect the right to do so."

Let's not lose debate, and let's not lose free speech. Engage. Challenge. Don't bully or belittle someone because they don't think the same way you do.

Don't be part of the problem.

Socioeconomic divide in student body merits reform at all levels

by Will Kaback '20
Opinion Editor

On Tuesday night, with the soft rush of the water feature in the KJ Atrium plugging away in the background, President Wippman spoke to the Hamilton community on a wide variety of topics. Interviewer and Senior Class President Silvia Radulescu '17 brought up issues ranging from President Trump's recent executive order on immigration to the College's technological initiatives, to advice for the incoming class of 2021. It was an event unlike any other in the College's history, as President Wippman spoke not from a podium in a grand auditorium or a lectern in one of the school's historic buildings, but rather to a camera broadcasting to the world via Facebook live from the recesses of a comfy armchair.

Buried beneath the cozy exterior and amiable conversation, however, was one pointed question that spoke to a massive challenge currently facing not just Hamilton, but also liberal arts colleges across the nation. I'm referring to the disproportionate amount of wealth concentrated at elite institutions ranging from the NESCACs, to the Ivys, to schools farther west like Washington University and Colorado College.

The New York Times recently published the results of a study from The Equal Opportunity Project that found 38 colleges in the United States that had more students from the top 1 percent of income than the bottom 60 pecrent. Coming in at number 18 was Hamilton, where 19.6 percent of the students in the class of 2013 came from families in the top percentile of wealth (630 thousand dollars in annual income or more) and only 13.8 percent were from families making less than 65 thousand dollars, also known as the bottom 60 percent. Although far from the worst offender (there existed a 15.6 point differential for one school), the College nonetheless has a responsibility to be better.

This study should be a shock to the system of the administration and the Office of Admissions. We pride ourselves on diversity and inclusion, but how well are we living up to these standards when such a wealth disparity exists, even after the College's decision to become need-blind in admissions in 2010? In light of these numbers, such rhetoric rings hollow.

Before I go any further, it's important (and fair) to acknowledge the current measures in place at Hamilton that are aimed at reducing the wealth gap in the student body. Most notable is the aforementioned transition to a fully need-blind admissions process. In his Facebook Live address, Wippman characterized the Board of Trustees' decision to implement this policy as "an incredibly important commitment [...] to access and affordability." This means that the college "[doesn't] consider [financial] need when they make an admissions decision, and after we've made that decision, which is based purely on merit, then we have a commitment to meet the full, demonstrated financial need of any of the freshmen admits that we've made."

This idea of "demonstrated need" can be tricky, because it utilizes a formula based on a variety of financial factors to determine how much a family can afford to pay for tuition. Oftentimes, the computer-generated number concludes that they must pay more than they expect or are able to. That being said, the College's need-blind policy is no doubt an important duty that it has upheld admirably since 2010.

"Families with resources have an advantage," said Wippman later in the broadcast, citing the "enrichment programs" that such students can utilize to make them more likely to be admitted. I would argue that a solution to this issue is a revamped method of how we evaluate student applications, adding greater awareness and accountability for socioeconomic disadvantages faced by millions of kids nationwide. While the system in place does account for such factors, how well is it working when the share of students from the top 1 percent at elite colleges has steadily increased since 2002 and the population from the lower 40 pecent, 20 percent and 10 percent has stagnated or declined in the same period?

If President Wippman and the Office of Admissions are true to their word about wanting to address this problem (and I believe they are), it has to start with the actual process of admitting students.

Wippman stated that one of the school's "big objectives" going forward is "to actively recruit and reach out to students from lower socioeconomic levels who might not consider a college like Hamilton." I think this is the right first step, but it must be buoyed by mindful admissions decisions, consistency in outreach and analysis of what works and what doesn't in the future. Above all, the College should analyze the results of The Equal Opportunity Project's study and set benchmarks to meet in the coming years aimed at erasing the current differential in wealth that exists.

SCREENCAP BY WILL KABACK '20

Senior Class President Silvia Radulescu spoke with Wippman on socioeconomic inequality via Facebook Live.

Obviously, the greater trend of income inequality in America presents an additional challenge to this goal, but it may be time for the administration to do a gut check and decide what is most important to them as an institution. That may mean making some cuts to bloated or extraneous programs in order to accommodate increased demand for financial aid. Alternatively (or additionally), it could establish an arm of the Office of Admissions strictly devoted to recruiting and working with underrepresented groups. Wippman and I agree that creating a greater presence in high schools and on social media are two concrete actions that can be taken toward meeting this goal. Some tough choices may be necessary, but, again, we need to decide what we really value. To me, socioeconomic diversity is worthy of sacrifice in other areas.

Some may say that even though it might be unfair that wealthier students have greater access to resources, doesn't this inherently make them better students? Why wouldn't we want the best? In fact, that same Equal Opportunity Project study found that low-income students who attend top colleges go on to achieve virtually the same success as their higher-income peers. The average difference in income rank between a student who comes from a family in the bottom 10 percent and a student in the top 1 percent is around two points. That means someone born into poverty who is admitted to a school like Hamilton is essentially just as likely to lead a successful life as his or her peer who is born into privilege. In the face of such data, Wippman's point regarding unequal access to resources between the rich and the poor resonates. It's not that low-income students are unfit to attend elite schools; they just are unable to compete with admissions standards that favor the wealthy. Once more, I would reiterate the necessity of reevaluating our own admissions standards to ensure that income does not impede merit.

Others would argue that, while imperfect, the socioeconomic diversity in our student body is good enough, and certainly not so bad as to warrant the cutting of other parts of the budget. In response, I would return to the question of what our values are. Is diversity (in all its forms) truly a key focus? Do we believe that substantial income inequality in a population has long-lasting, detrimental effects? Should more money be put towards recruiting students from the middle and lower classes? If the answer is yes to all three (or even one or two), then efforts to bridge the gap between the various income levels must be accentuated and accelerated.

By now, you can probably tell that I am a Bernie Sanders supporter. It was almost exactly a year ago that I heard him speak at the Iowa Caucuses, his infamous *thymos* reverberating with every exaggerated finger wag conjured from his hunched gait. There he spoke of the scourge of income inequality and its devastating effects on our country. If there has been any lasting effect from Senator Sander's "Political Revolution," it hinges on his dedication to dragging the harsh reality of inequality into the national limelight. His message is bolstered by the data like that from The Equal Opportunity Project, which shows that this problem has far-reaching implications, especially as it relates to our students.

The College has its mind in the right place when it comes to addressing this issue, and now it's time to follow through on our promises and go even further in acting on our values.

CORRECTION

In last week's issue of *The Spectator*, the news piece "AHI brings Wall Street Journalist to the Hill" reported that State Troopers were present at Kimberly Strassel's lecture. It was brought to our attention that the officer was actually Campus Safety. *The Spectator* regrets the error.

Thumbs Down

Every single action the Trump administration has taken since he's taken office.

Humor is a good coping mechanism, and it's important to take care of ourselves, but it's also our duty to get to work and fight hatred to the utmost of our abilities if we have the means to do so. Those most affected by these policies also have the most to lose by actively fighting them. It's time for those of us least affected so far to take action.

Donate to the National Immigration Law Center. Call your representatives and senators and ask them to publicly oppose the executive order on immigration. Tell them that you oppose legislation that seeks to criminalize your right to protest peacefully. Tell them you oppose the wall at the Mexican border. Tell them you support the ACA.

Support water protectors. Support American citizens without representation. There are plenty of concrete actions to which we can commit ourselves. Try to find these, and do what you can. It's our responsibility.

by Tara Cicic '18

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the view of *The Spectator* editorial board.

WHY IS COMMONS GREEN? AND OTHER PRESSING QUESTIONS

by Molly Geisinger '19
FEATURES CO-EDITOR

As students returned to campus after a month off, some minor changes to their beloved dining halls ushered in a variety of questions. What happened to the pizza in McEwen? Why is Commons now green?

We at *The Spectator* took your concerns and bewilderments to heart and did some digging.

Reuben Haag, General Manager at Bon Appetit confirmed by email why such changes occurred and what influenced them.

One change that students are quick to notice is when food located in one area of Commons or McEwen suddenly moves to another spot. Take, for example, the weekend brunch waffle machines that moved from the main dining room to the soup-by-day, pasta-by-night serving station.

Perhaps Commons frequenters were wondering why the second toasting station disappeared unexpectedly right before break. Haag reassures students that the newly-restored toaster was only taken away for repair. As for the brunch option relocation, Haag says, "We moved the waffle station into the servery with the other options available for everyone's convenience and to allow us to maintain it more consistently."

Might McEwen regulars ponder why the pizza moved to the global foods station? Haag indicates that staff moved the pizza to "provide a better area for condiments and to better utilize some available space."

Finally, the most puzzling topic of all: Commons's new coat of paint.

Students may recall the faint yellow that once adorned the walls has now been replaced by a deeper green. Haag consulted Irene Cornish, Director of Auxiliary Services, to find out why.

"The dining area was scheduled to be painted this year. It was due," he said. "A color was selected that coordinated with the colors used in the servery (which was repainted last year)."

According to Haag, the College used the same design firm they had worked with previously when updating the servery.

Whenever staff reorganizes or repairs the cafes, it is usually at the discretion of those who use them the most: the students.

"The teams that work in the locations are continuously looking for better ways to provide what they either see or hear their customers want," Haag says. "A lot of the little day to day enhancements are either based on student requests, and item's popularity or are something we've seen that needs to be addressed for various reasons."

Therefore, student input played a substantial role in the decision. Those "Tell the Chef" corkboards aren't just a decoration. Students can write in requests, all of which the staff checks on a regular basis. Haag says he and the Bon Appetit staff look at the boards "all the time." He also notified us of the food committee, with whom he meets regularly.

"Students not part of the food committee are welcome to attend the food commitee meetings. Our chefs and managers are always happy to connect in person with students."

You heard it, folks. These little changes didn't come from nowhere; if anything, they came from the student body. So, be careful what you say at the table because you never know who may be listneing. On the other hand, there are plenty of opportunities for your voice to be heard. Attending the food committee, dropping a note on a corkboard, or emailing BAMCO@hamilton.edu are just a few of the ways to influence your dining experience.

A BLAST TO THE PAST

REVISITING KIRKLAND COLLEGE

by Maura Colley '19
FEATURES CONTRIBUTER

Only a week after the presidential inauguration, hundreds of people across the world have taken to the streets of major cities and staged giant marches in protest or support of President Trump's political agenda. These marches have reached the front pages of nearly every news outlet in the US, and have spurred heated debates over issues that have dominated the political scene for years. One of the most prevalent themes of these marches has been the presence of strong female voices. Two of the largest and most highly publicized of these protests were "The Women's March on Washington" and "The March for Life"—two events that were attended by thousands of people, and produced discussion over difficult topics. In light of all of this recent political activity and the emphasis that's been put on women's issues in America, it's interesting to look back on our own college's historical merger with Kirkland College.

Kirkland College, the private women's college that existed separately from Hamilton College from 1968-1978, is an example of the Hamilton community's historical presence as a competitive and progressive environment. For example, during Kirkland College freshman orientation, the students would receive the book "Our Bodies, Ourselves," which was considered a radical book during the 1970s, as it was a collection of stories and thoughts shared by women about their bodies. After orientation set the tone, Kirkland students would continue to push the boundaries of their place in society, all while pursuing a progressive education. Burke Library still houses an array of archived articles written by Kirkland students, and records of their activities since graduation. The stark contrast between Hamilton and Kirkland students during the years when they were separate institutions in clear from archived student surveys.

Taken by students from both colleges, the surveys showed that the Kirkland students saw themselves as receiving a unique education that would prepare them for an increasingly complex and innovative world. Hamilton students also viewed their education as unique, but largely said the importance of the College's reputation was more important to them. Kirkland College represented a progressive community of students who challenged the rules of institutional education and redefined their roles as female students. Hamilton students tended to major in hard sciences and go on to pursue medical and law degrees, while at Kirkland, more students were found to major in the humanities and the fine arts than in the sciences.

In the article "The Kirkland College Legacy," written by Rachel Dickinson '78, a graduate of Kirkland College, for the 2002 edition of the Hamilton Alumni Review, five professors talk about why they decided to teach at Kirkland, and what they thought of Kirkland's merger with Hamilton College. Several professors spoke about how the merger positively affected the two colleges. Kirkland students were able to continue their education at a competitive school, and Hamilton students and faculty were joined by female students with new understandings of women's place in society. While this presented a challenge to Hamilton's all-male history, the professors agreed that after a transition period, the positive effects of joining the schools was evident. Some even said that the Hamilton College curriculum of today is increasingly similar to Kirkland's in the 70s.

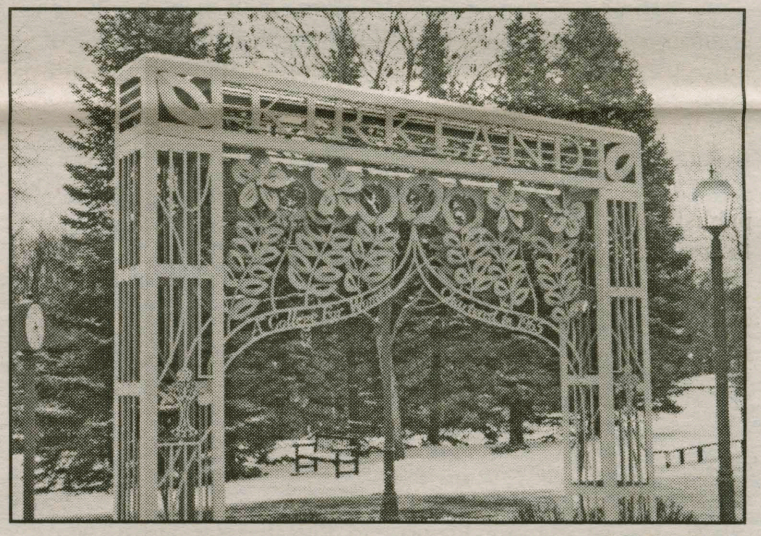


PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

The famous arch commemorates Kirkland College before its merger with Hamilton College.

So amidst the political transition that the US faces today, it isn't surprising that many Hamilton students have traveled to Washington, DC or New York City to participate in protests. Students even took action to hold their own march from the Hill into Clinton, in support of community members struggling with the changing political world. The environment that Kirkland and Hamilton fostered together is a community of students who aren't afraid to speak their minds or think critically. During this time of transition, it's heartening to look back at the students who, despite a complicated transition during their education, worked together to continue education and community.

For more information about Kirkland College and alumni activities, go to http://kirklandalums.org

Jealous you weren't picked to be the Bachelorette or Bachelor of the week? Nominate yourself or others by emailing featspec@hamilton.edu

LUNAR NEW YEAR

by Michelle Chung '20
STAFF WRITER

While many individuals in America consider the first day of January to be the beginning of the new year, millions of individuals of East Asian descent recently celebrated Lunar New Year, observed on Jan. 28.

Following the lunar calendar whose dates are dependent on the cycles of the moon, Lunar New Year typically lands at the end of February or the beginning of January. The holiday is widely celebrated by those from Asian countries such as China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia and many more.

In China, Lunar New Year is honored as the beginning of a year filled with happiness, unity, healthy living, and prosperity. Families typically celebrate by sharing oranges with others, setting off firecrackers, handing out red envelopes filled with money as a way to spread good luck and appreciating the art of lion dances.

The onset of a new year in China is also associated with one of 12 animals from the Chinese zodiac as well as one of five elements. Traditionally, every zodiac sign and element are said to affect the personality and destiny of those who were born in that year. 2017 marks the Year of the Fire Rooster, meaning that individuals born in this year will be trustworthy, responsible, and strong at time-management.

In Vietnamese culture, the Lunar New Year is called Tết and is a time for family reunions and bonding. The celebration actually spans several days as each day is dedicated to visiting immediate family members, distant relatives, or close friends.

Hoang Do '17, an international student from Vietnam, says, "We usually decorate with peach plants and peach blossoms. Peach blossoms bloom around spring time so they signify that a new year has come."

For Do, "Celebrating New Year means that I get to do a lot of things that I don't usually do like eating a lot of fatty foods such as banh chung (glutinous rice cake), or singing karaoke until 2 a.m. on a weekday with my parents."

In Korea, the Lunar New Year is called Seollal and places a great emphasis on family as well. According to Janice Kang '20, "my family and relatives gather and have memorial service for our ancestors. After that, the younger generation bow to the older generation and get pocket money in return. Then, we eat rice cake soup which is just rice cake in beef stock. Then, we talk or play traditional Korean board games."

In fact, Kang's favorite part about Lunar New Year is the food. The memorial service for their ancestors require them to make a feast as a sign of respect and honor, including Korean food such as Korean braised short ribs, a variety of Korean pancakes with beef, ham, shrimp, squash and mushrooms, and desserts like Korean rice cakes.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE CHUNG '20

Families that celebrate Chinese New Year will often pass around these red envelopes.

"Celebrating [Lunar New Year] is important because it is part of my culture. When I was young, it just seemed like one of the fun events where I got to play with my cousins, but as I grow up, and especially since I am away from my country, it is more than a just fun event," Kang admits.

While the different Lunar New Year celebrations in Asian countries all honor the beginning of the new year following the lunar calendar, different families and cultures honor different traditions and customs. Millions of individuals in America, though they no longer live in Asia, celebrate the holiday to commemorate the importance of their culture and diverse way of living.

It's the start of another semester and we'd like to welcome you back to the semester with yet another crossword! Give it a try while relaxing with your syllabus to plan out your new semester. We wish you luck!

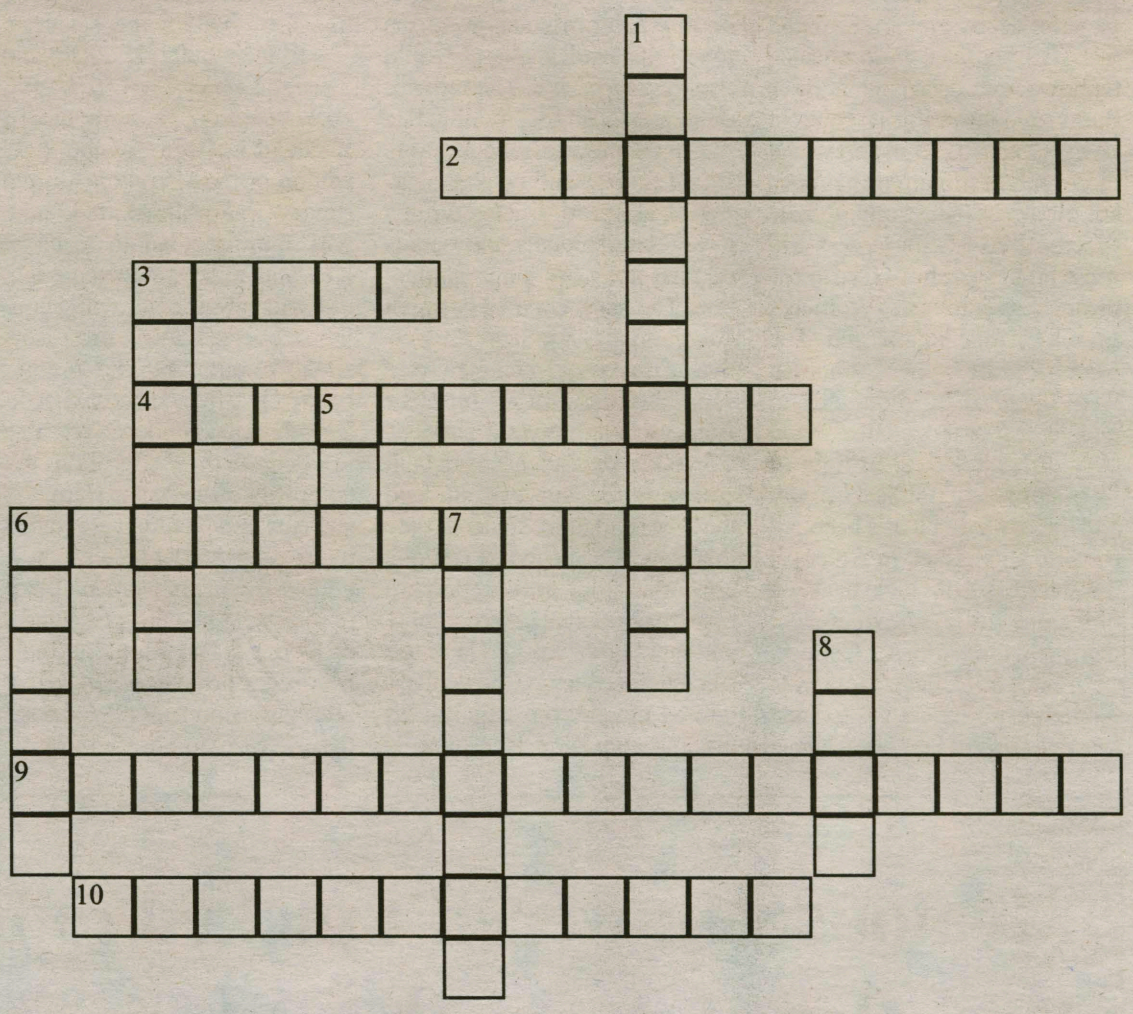
by Cilly Geranios '19 and Molly Geisinger '19
FEATURES EDITORS

Across:

2. The largest protest in history.
3. Now a position held by an orange cheeto.
4. Common phrase on bulletin boards greeting students after winter break.
6. A lie that exists in some alternative universe wherein professors do not assign homewor but rather review expectations for the course.
9. The goals one sets at the beginning of the year
10. Currently being observed by ASA.

Down:

1. Polar bears are also particularly good _____.
3. This group hosted a trip to Killington mountain over the weekend recently.
5. This student group recently sold tickets for the GlobeTrotters event in Utica.
6. We're now in the second semester, otherwise known as?
7. Half of the collegiate school year, not a trimester.
8. Senior Washed Up Girl.



Answers from last crossword: ACROSS: 3. presentation, 5. stress response, 7. cram, 8. wish, 9. panic, 13. final, 15. semester, 16. drop out, 17. test. DOWN: 1. uncontrollable, 2. deep breath, 3. pass, 4. oral exam, 6. essays, 10. crunch, 11. desperation, 12. winter, 14. open book, 16. degrees.

From Where I Sit:

Hamilton's International Perspectives

by Ivy Huang '20
FEATURES CONTRIBUTER

Feeling exhausted after walking from Kirner-Johnson to the Taylor Science Center every day? While we struggle to reach a few thousands steps a day, flocks of intrepid shorebirds called Bar-tailed Godwits cover 7,000 miles in 9 days in a nonstop flight. Their migration is the longest known nonstop flight of any bird and also the longest journey without pausing to eat. It means no food breaks, no water breaks, no sleep breaks, no pausing—just pushing through cyclones, storms, headwinds, flappity flap-flap for days and nights. Last spring, I was fortunate enough to observe them up close. Here is the story about these tough, long-distance fliers and me.

I worked as a research assistant for a shorebird research project conducted by Fudan University in China, the University of Groningen and NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research. Annually during migration season, tens of thousands of shorebirds, including the Bar-tailed Godwits, come to the Yalu Jiang coastal wetland, the geographic border between China and North Korea, to fuel themselves before flying to the Arctic tundra. I was working on feeding ecology research of the Bar-tailed Godwits and stayed at the site for two months to monitor their entire stay.

Working with birds, no matter how strenuous or demanding the work might be, has always been a pleasure for me. As a birder, I had travelled to different places in China to spot rare species. Yet, to be honest, having watched perching birds for most of my birding experience, I could not deny my affection for petite kind of birds flapping and swiftly springing between branches. Before starting my research, I wondered whether shorebirds, which are slightly clumsier and larger, would disappoint me because of their lack of liveliness and animation.

However, the Godwits first struck me as an acrobatic dancing troupe. Usually the rising tide ignited the breathtaking and fluid aerial display, when the whole flock found their food too deep in water to reach and took off, flying together in beautiful, rhythmic formations. On a grand scale, the flock usually has thousands, and at its highest 50,000, birds who are displayed instantly turning in unison like a school of fish, creating their own squeaky melody as background music, and hovering over the tide. On the ground they often acted in concert as well; numerous tiny greyish dots densely gathered, scurrying along the shore like a wave, a remarkable choreography of nervous feeding on goodies washed up by the surf.

Take one step closer and they are even more stunning. With the descriptive genus name Limosa, meaning "muddy" in Latin, they have winter plumage in mottled brown, black and gray and breeding plumage in cinnamon color. Part of what is unusual about Bar-tailed Godwits, or shorebirds in general, is that they have evolved to be specialized feeders and have their own idiosyncratically shaped bill. By looking at their bill, one can easily guess what they feed on. The up-curved bills of Bar-tailed Godwits are useful for poking down sloped holes in the mud; the touch-sensitive tips allow them to locate animals deep in thick mud.

After spending such a long time with the Godwit flock, I found myself deeply bonded to them. I chewed on every heartfelt moment when I was accepted into their close community: the moment when they lowered their defense and approached me with intensive curiosity, when they flew very low over me and landed nearby, when we made an eye contact and felt solid rapport between us. Although to the Godwits, I may have appeared as a weird stalker, who always rudely stared at them while they eat, I considered them as my dear friends.

Yet when their precise, internal clock said it was time to go, they left, no questions asked. There was a certain kind of sadness, but I was delighted to see my departing friends had ballooned themselves up and prepared well for the upcoming journey. Completed molting into full breeding plumage in brick red, they looked radically different from the time they just arrived. Having carefully groomed themselves, they had shinier feathers than ever.

Usually on a sunny afternoon, with a wind from the south, they took off from the ground, gathered in the pose of arrow. In a noisier voice than usual, they bid farewell to Yalu Jiang in their own language after stamping the coast on their passport. I saluted these brave missionaries carrying the future of their Godwit community, who left with footprints in my heart and unforgettable stories. My eyes followed the flocks as they flew, and flew, and flew, and eventually disappeared from my sight.

Now on Hamilton campus, my memories still bring me back to the Yalu Jiang with those birds. While I am expecting an upcoming snowfall in Clinton, Godwits have finished their epic nonstop flight back to their wintering site. Once again, these ravenous travelers eat as much as they can to molt into new shiny feathers, preparing for next year's migration. Flying thousands of miles from China to arrive here, sometimes I feel like a bird myself. With all my Hamilton "bird friends" flying from all over the world, we keep learning nonstop and filling ourselves with art, knowledge and experiences. Eventually we will depart Hamilton and continued our nonstop life journey, hopefully arriving at the destination of our dreams.

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to international students' voices. If you are interested in contributing a piece, contact Britt Hysell at bbrithy@hamilton.edu

PHOTO COURTESY OF IVY HUANG '20, BY JASON LOGHRY

Ivy Huang '20 worked as a research assistant and studied the Bar-tailed Godwits during their migration season.

When will your reflection show...

ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

... your experience at Hamilton?

We're now looking for seniors interested in reflecting on their time at Hamilton. If that's you, email us at featspec@hamilton.edu.

F.I.L.M. presents:
The Golden Age of Comedy: Chaplin and Keaton

by Ghada Emish '19
STAFF WRITER

Febfest's Comedy Show will not be the only laughter-inducing event at Hamilton this February. F.I.L.M. is sponsoring a dose of classic comedy through four screenings entitled, "For the Young and Young at Heart." Professor Scott MacDonald has planned these screenings in tandem with his class, American Film Comedy: Classic and Modern. The screenings are scheduled every Sunday this month beginning Feb. 5 at 2:00 p.m. in KJ 125.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS, THE FREE MEDIA REPOSITORY, DISTRIBUTED UNDER A CC-BY 2.0 LICENSE

Visting Professor of Art History Scott MacDonald's screenings are scheduled every Sunday this month, beginning Feb. 5 at 2:00 p.m. in KJ 125.

Professor MacDonald hopes these screenings will attract some special guests whose laughter itself is funny: kids. Professor MacDonald has invited them as they are incredibly and instantly entertained by Chaplin films and their laughter rises to a level of comfort and spontaneity that knows no restrictions. Also, watching comedy with other people is funnier to hear other people reacting strongly to comedy.

Classic comedy does not come to mind without mentioning Chaplin. Chaplin's splendid agility is so effortless that, at times, it does not feel like he is performing. Although he looks young, he moves around with a stick, which one thinks is a magic wand that cancels the effect of gravity on him and unleashes his energy.

Knowing that Chaplin came from poverty has a humbling effect on his audience. Along with his little brother, Chaplin used to perform on London streets for money. Perhaps this is one of the reasons his performance feels so natural. Lots of hard work was invested for him to succeed and preserve his success.

The first film of the film series that will be screened on Feb. 5, *The Adventurer,* will feature *The Tramp* as a fugitive. He is being chased, but wittily tries to escape. Every time the viewer thinks he is doomed, he finds an opportunity—or it finds him—to combat his bad luck.

The Kid (to be screened Feb. 5) is Chaplin's first full length film (53 min). In order to transition from making short films to longer ones, Chaplin modified his method. The film touches upon the challenges facing a single parent, a serious subject, yet in no way does this detract from Chaplin's irresistible comedy. Unlike protagonists in Chaplin's films before *The Kid*, the main character has a strongly felt purpose that commences early in the film and is fulfilled by the end.

Chaplin knew The Tramp's parameters as well as he knew his own palm. Chaplin invented *The Tramp*. He put the attire on and brought the character to life by improvising the smallest details of his personality. The Tramp is witty in his motion and facial expressions. This ability makes Chaplin unparalleled in the way he choreographed and directed such intelligent performances.

The General (to be screened Feb. 12) starring Buster Keaton, is full of awe-inspiring stunts. Keaton's ability to master a decent level of acting while putting his life at risk is marvelous. According to MacDonald, Keaton wanted his work to feel real to people, because he knew that only then would he be able to move them.

In some stunts, there was a 50/50 chance that Keaton might not have survived—for example, sitting on a train's connecting rods, which link wheels together, while the train is moving. This level of dedication is missed in the comedy productions of today. Because the single-comedian films have disappeared from modern-day Hollywood, Laurel and Hardy's comedy duo is more similar to today's comedy.

In *The Music Box* and *Two Tars* (to be screened Feb. 19), Laurel and Hardy are two friends who constantly argue either because of their corresponding goals or because they just have different views on how to move a piano up high steps.

Modern Times (1935) (to be screened Feb. 26) is Chaplin's first sound film, in which he remains silent for the most part. Apparently, Chaplin was quite sensitive to the negative influence of industry on social values.

The film reveals an obsessive tendency toward automation to the extent of feeding employees with a machine to reduce lunch time and increase productivity—boy! The times we spend chatting under the excuse of having lunch in college.

Additionally, Chaplin presents sweet and refreshing romance that does not rely on fancy possessions for happiness or satisfaction—had Chaplin seen HBO shows, who knows what he would have thought.

These classic comedies are action-loaded. Clearly, Keaton and Chaplin do not come from the same school of today's action-comedy films with smashed cars, blazing fire and fancy smoke, but there is a lot of heartfelt emotion and amusing little incidents that lead to important events in the plot. These films are among the work for which Hollywood gained its reputation. The muscular flexibility of these actors is not visible in their "bulked up" figures, but rather in their ability to shift their ground smoothly and persuasively.

One does not have to be interested in silent movies to enjoy classic comedy films. Chaplin and Keaton produce human gestures that people around the world can relate to.

For this reason, these comedians are not only part of American cinematic history, but also a crucial part of human cultural memory.

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The DJ's of EDM nah... E&M will often play Stevie Wonder on their radio station. Their friendship enrich the show.

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The Overcoats enchant audience

by Liz Lvov '17
A&E Contributor

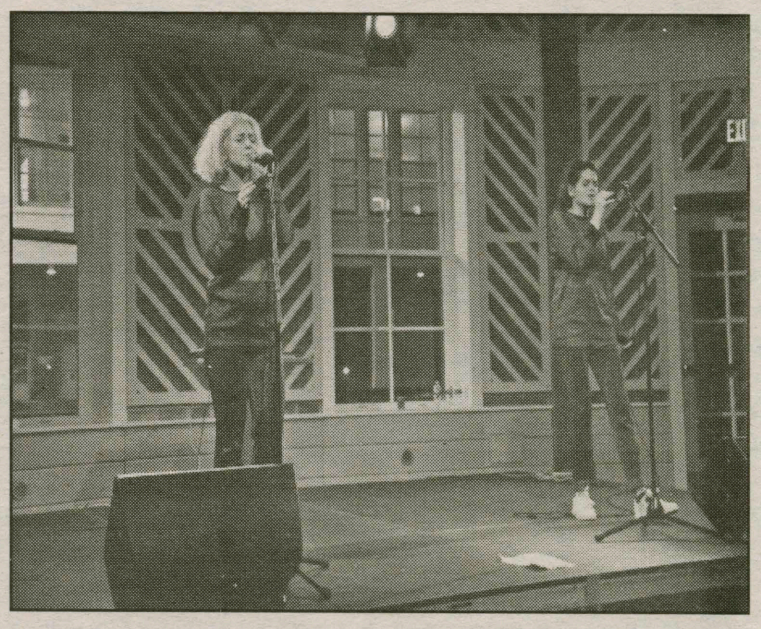
The Overcoats, a musical duo, appeared at last Thursday's acoustic coffeehouse. The femme group performed equipped with voluminous hair and coordinated outfits; sparkly, sheer, black long-sleeve shirts, black pants, and white sneakers.

From the moment they took stage, the audience was immediately enchanted as the duo's music kicked in.

The music they make with a simple mixer and their two voices is amazingly complex and lovely. Electronic beats mix with hauntingly layered vocals, and the songs are simultaneously catchy as well as heartfelt. The lyrics are intimate and confessional, and the audience swayed and bopped to the hypnotic beat.

At certain points, the two of them preformed tiny choreographed routines, smoothly walking around each other or gently bouncing with hips cocked at the same angle. They looked at the audience with warmth, and at each other with adoration. They alternated between witchy music and lighthearted banter with the crowd. Their voices were angelic.

Hamilton's own The Terrapin Trio opened for The Overcoats last Thursday.



PHOTOS BY DAN TU '20

The band name The Overcoats shields the artists as well as provides a warm name for audiences.

Here's what I learned chatting with the members of The Overcoats, JJ and Hana, after the show. They are recent graduates from Wesleyan University, and have been friends since frehsmen year.

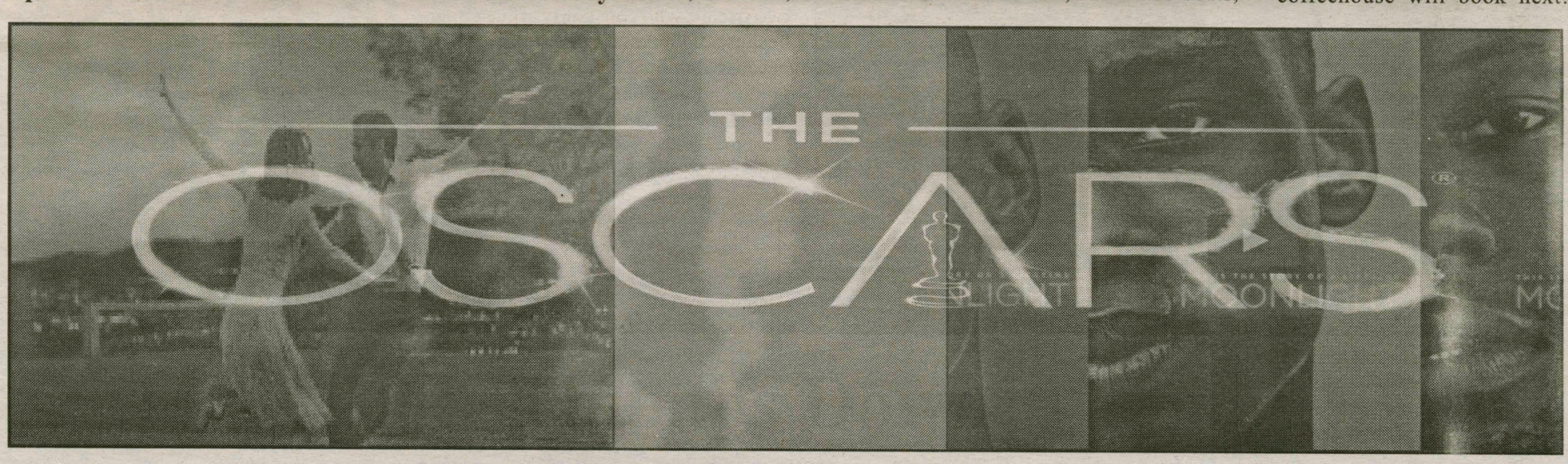
During their senior year, JJ and Hana decided to compete in their school's popular battle of the bands competiton after realizing the only people signed up for the competition were men. Even though they hadn't made music or performed together at that point, the two students decided to throw together three songs and enter the competition. They won. Now, they'll be going on tour with Tennis, an American indie pop band from Colorado. Additionally, they have a record deal, and are making their living as an artistic duo.

The moral of the story here, seniors; it's not too late for us to find ourselves.

JJ and Hana enjoyed a lovely steak dinner courtesy of Bon Apetit. Their matching outfits were purchased almost in their entirety from Zara.

KT Glusac '17, who booked the Overcoats, let me come along for the ride back to the hotel with them, and we drove to the New Hartford Ramada. According to JJ and Hana, the band name, "The Overcoats," is derived from their desire to name the band some kind of thick protective fabric—a name to shield them and their listeners—a name to warm them.

The show was a great time enjoyed by everyone: The Terrapin Trio had the crowd hyped and energetic as the opener, and The Overcoats were totally enchanting. Everyone is looking forward to who the acoustic coffeehouse will book next!



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This year's predications and storylines

by Matt Burner '17
Staff Writer

In many ways, it seems like only yesterday that the 2016 Oscars Ceremony took place. The debate between the slow-burning drama *Spotlight* and the massive undertaking that was *The Revenant* is still stuck in the minds of many, but it is time now to shift our focus toward new storylines. With the 2017 Academy Award nominations now released, this article will profile some of the notable storylines as we enter the final weeks before the last stop on the awards ceremony circuit.

Moonlight vs. La La Land

2017 has arguably been one of the weaker years for film in recent memory.

Whereas last year there were several Best Picture nominees that were considered worthy, this year has seemingly become a two-horse race between two incredibly different movies.

La La Land is a musical about two people seeking fulfillment in Los Angeles. It is an incredibly unique take on the musical genre, with fewer traditional sing-song sequences and more incorporation of instruments alongside the singing. It is truly a phenomenol production and a must-see.

Moonlight, on the other hand, is a very personal film directed by newcomer Barry Jenkins about a young boy growing up in Miami. The low-budget indie is saturated with bold colors and consists of multiple emotional and captivating acting performances.

It will be interesting to see whether the Academy will award the safer pick, *La La Land,* or pick the bolder indie *Moonlight*. The current consensus is trending towards the former.

Political Statements

To the chagrin of some, awards ceremonies have become an opportunity for actors and actresses to share their opinions on causes that are deeply meaningful to them.

Last year the Oscars were somewhat overshadowed by the trending topic "#OscarsSoWhite" while actors such as Leonardo DiCaprio shared their opinions on other contentious issues during the show.

With the November election results, much of the Hollywood establishment's ire has recently been directed toward the new presidential administration. If the Golden Globes were any indicator of what to expect, this year's Oscars ceremony could become an avenue for actors to share again their opinions on new policies.

An example is how President Trump's recent immigration ban will affect Iranian filmmaker Asghar Farhadi's attendance of the ceremony for his film "*The Salesman*." This is sure to be a topic of discussion in the lead-up to the ceremony and certainly during it.

Who will take home Best Actor?

A final note to pay attention to is who will receive the award for Best Actor. The field is deep this year with Casey Affleck and Denzel Washington leading the way.

Although Casey Affleck took home the Golden Globe, it is not a foregone conclusion that he will also receive the Oscar. Andrew Garfield, nominated for his performance in *Hacksaw Ridge*, could also cause an upset. Keep this in mind as you watch the Oscars on Feb 26.

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Blueberries, Strawberries, Candied Pecans, Chèvre,
Champagne Maple Vinaigrette 13

Buttermilk Battered Chicken Nola and Waffle Sandwich
Tomatoes, Arugula, Orange Honey Drizzle 11

Basque Eggs Piperade
Tomato and Pepper Stew, Feta, Grilled Sour Dough 11

Vanilla Bean Chobani
Marcona Almond Granola, Fresh Berries, Melba Puree 9

Thyme Scented Steel Cut Oatmeal Risotto
Braised Mushrooms, Garlic Wilted Spinach 13

Steak Frites Bravas
6oz. Choice N.Y Strip, House Cut Fries, Roasted Tomatoes,
Horseradish Aioli 17

SIDES

House Fries 2	Fruit Salad 4
Side Salad 5	Bacon 3
Toast 2	Scotch Egg 5

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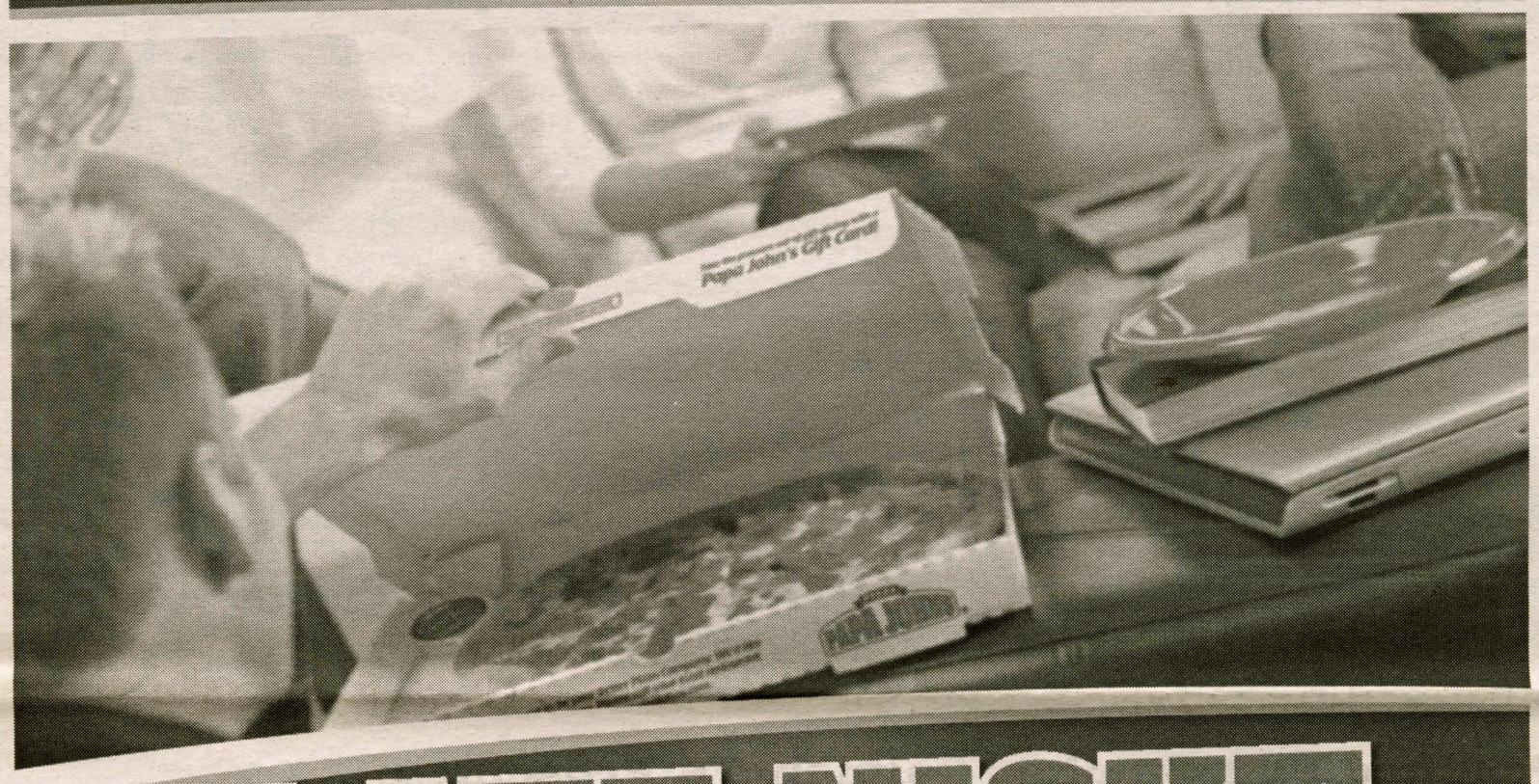

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PAPA'S IN THE HOUSE!

Track and field teams stay close to home with three meets at Utica

by Robert Fitzgerald '20
STAFF WRITER

The Hamilton College men's and women's track teams began their indoor season on Dec. 3 at the first Utica College Pioneer Invitational. In this meet, the Continentals' men finished in fourth place amongst six teams and the women finished in fifth. Eli Saucier '18 highlighted the men's individual performances with victories in the 60-and 200-meter dashes. The Hamilton men also swept the top three spots in the 5000-meter, with Jack Pierce '17 leading the pack and setting a track record of 15:02.41, Henry Whipple '18 finishing second and Peter Deweirdt '18 rounding out the top three. For the women, Cat Berry '19 was victorious in the 300-meter dash with a program record time of 43.44 seconds, while Kyandreia Jones '19 posted a record breaking time in the 60-meter hurdles of 10.03 seconds, good enough for third place in the race.

After this first meet, the Continentals were off from competition through the holidays and competed in their second meet, the second Pioneer Invitational also at Utica College, on Jan. 14. Pierce led the men's team with a victory in the 3000-meter race and a personal-best time of 8:45.43, which was also a facility record. Saucier finished second in the 60 with a career-best time of 7.03 and third in the 200. Ryan Sedwick '19 placed eighth and 11th, in the 60 and 200 respectively. On the women's side, Hannah Jerome '18 paced the Continentals with a victory in the 1000-meter. The Continentals placed three women in the top 10 in the 800, with Mary Lundin '19, Mattie Seamans '18, and Michaela Guinee '18 finishing third, fifth and ninth. In the 3000-meter, Hamilton took third and fourth with Courtney Brunet '20 and Lindsay Heyer '17. Jones and Caitlin Anthony '18 each placed sixth in their respective events, the 60-meter hurdles and the mile.

The following Saturday, Hamilton competed again, this time hosting teams at the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House for the Hamilton Invitational. Saucier had a big day, winning twice, in the 200-and 400-meter dashes. Saucier's football teammate, Preston DeLaurentis '18, was victorious in the triple jump while also finishing with the second-best long jump. Other top male performers include the 1600-meter relay team of Matthew McCarron '17, Christopher Albino '20, Saucier and Jake Bolster '19 finished in second place. Grant Whitney '17 was the runner-up in the 1000, Christopher Skeldon '20 finished third in the 5000 and Frank Zuroski '20 was fourth in the 3000. The women's team captured five wins on the day, with Seamans winning the 500, Jerome the 800, Anthony the mile, Jones the 60-meter hurdles and Emily Hull '18 in the 20-pound weight throw. Other competitors came close to the top spot: Berry was the runner-up in the 200 and took third in the 400, Emily Steates '19 was second in the triple jump and third in the long jump, Leigh Gelotte '19 finished third in the high jump and Heyer was second in the 3000. Two Hamilton relay teams also claimed second place: Berry, Caitlin McHugh '20, Charlotte Freed '20 and Wilhelgyne Rose '19 in the 800 and Anthony, Courtney Brunet '20, Erica Seff '20, and Anaidys Uribe '19 in the 3200.

This past Saturday, Jan. 28, the track team returned to Utica for the third Pioneer Invitational. Pierce broke his own facility record, winning the 3,000-meter race in 8:45.71. Pierce's performance certainly headlined the Continentals' efforts Saturday, but there were plenty of other key moments from the meet. Saucier posted two top-three finishes. With a time of 7.06, he placed third in the 60-meter dash. In the 200-meter dash, Saucier took second, finishing in 22.40. Not only was this his personal best for the event, but the finish also qualified him for the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships. He also competed in the 1,600-meter relay alongside McCarron, Whitney and Albino. However, the quartet narrowly missed the topthree, finishing fourth with a time of 3:30.73. To round out the male top-three finishes, Bryce Murdick '20 finished second in the 5,000-meter race (15:58.01) and DeLaurentis finished third in the triple jump (13.53 meters). On the women's side, Berry was extremely successful throughout the day, finishing second in the 400-meter dash (1:01.31) and third in the 200-meter dash. Clocking in at 26.60, Berry was able to qualify for the ECAC Indoor Championships in March. However, Berry wasn't the only female Continental to qualify for the ECAC Championships that day. In a third-place finish, Lundin recorded a 2:23.01 time in the 800-meter run. Likewise, Michelle Fish '17 finished third in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 3:11.62. Both of these women have their spots set in stone for the Championships later this year.

Next Saturday, the Hamilton track teams will compete in the Ithaca College Bomber Invitational.

NESCAC Playoff Watch

Men's Hockey

Place	School	Conf	Overall
1	Williams	7-2-3	10-5-3
2	**Hamilton**	**6-2-4**	**12-2-4**
3	Amherst	6-3-3	11-3-3
4	Colby	6-3-3	8-5-4
5	Trinity	6-4-2	10-5-3
6	Wesleyan	5-3-4	10-4-4
7	Tufts	5-6-1	7-8-3
8	Bowdoin	4-8-0	7-11-0
9	Conn. Coll.	2-8-2	4-11-2
10	Middlebury	2-10-0	2-14-2

Women's Hockey

Place	School	Conf	Overall
1	**Hamilton**	**6-3-1**	**11-5-2**
2	Conn. Coll.	7-4-0	11-6-2
3	Amherst	5-3-4	9-5-4
4	Williams	6-4-2	9-8-2
5	Middlebury	5-4-1	10-5-2
6	Bowdoin	5-4-2	10-6-3
7	Wesleyan	4-4-2	7-6-4
8	Trinity	4-5-1	5-10-2
9	Colby	0-11-1	0-15-3

Men's Basketball

Place	School	Conf	Overall
1	Tufts	6-1	16-4
2	Amherst	4-2	14-4
3	Middlebury	4-2	16-3
4	Trinity	4-2	13-7
5	Bates	4-3	15-6
6	Wesleyan	4-3	16-4
7	**Hamilton**	**3-3**	**14-5**
8	Williams	2-4	14-6
9	Conn. Coll.	2-5	11-8
10	Bowdoin	1-5	10-9
11	Colby	1-5	10-9

Women's Basketball

Place	School	Conf	Overall
1	Tufts	7-0	20-0
2	Amherst	6-0	20-0
3	Bowdoin	4-2	15-3
4	Middlebury	4-2	14-5
5	Conn. Coll.	3-4	14-6
6	Colby	2-4	10-9
7	**Hamilton**	**2-4**	**9-9**
8	Trinity	2-4	11-7
9	Williams	2-4	13-7
10	Bates	2-5	6-13
11	Wesleyan	1-6	7-12

Women's basketball rebounds from midseason slump as postseason looms

*from **W. Basketball** p. 16*

be just as important as overall talent, and, as Walter indicates, both have been invaluable captains.

As the team enters the final weeks of the regular season, they will look to find consistency above all. After losing their first three, the Continentals flipped a switch and took off, winning five straight and going undefeated in December, capped off by a 91-52 drubbing of Cazenovia College on the road. But January saw a return to the up-and-down nature of their season. Two losses, two wins, then four losses, two wins. At 9-9, the team also sits at 2-4 in conference play, a mark which can go to .500 in a flash with wins over Bowdoin and Colby this weekend. Clearly, they are capable of great feats of offense and stifling defense, but the key will be harnessing those abilities that have only appeared in bursts thus far.

With that being said, the team remains in an enviable position. Despite some disappointing showings, they are still 9-9 and coming off a win over one of the NESCAC's best. They've got four winnable games in the next two weeks, and strong showings in those contests could catapult them up the conference standings at season's end. Furthermore, if they are able to harness the momentum from their current win streak and channel it into consistent play, their overall record will be merely an afterthought and they will be well-positioned for a deep run in the NESCAC playoffs. Walter says the win over Middlebury "was the highlight of the season thus far. They are a really good team but we worked hard and fought as a team to pull out the win." That type of mentality breeds playoff success.

PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

Carly O'Hern '20 drives through defenders towards the bucket.

Hamilton has two key games this weekend as third-place Bowdoin and fourth-place Colby come to town. Two wins this weekend would put Hamilton, currently in ninth place, in prime position to make the playoffs. As Walter puts it, the goal for the rest of the season is to play "our best basketball." All the ingredients are there. If the team is able to merge their talent, effort, and potential at this crucial moment, as they have shown the ability to do at points this season, don't be surprised if you hear their name again in late-February in the NESCAC playoffs.

Women's hockey sits atop NESCAC standings after ten conference games

*from **W. Hockey** p. 16*

The Continentals carried this fervor and desire to win into the weekend, and came out the other end victorious.

The Jan. 27 game was a team record sixth shutout for Hamilton goaltender Sam Walther '18, who made 21 saves to blank the Panthers by a score of 2-0. Mackey bolstered the Continentals' effort, posting a goal and an assist in the game, utilizing both her speed and smart face-off wins. Her goal got Hamilton on the board on a power play after a Middlebury penalty for too many players on the ice. Mackey fired a shot from the right that deflected off of a defender and the goalpost for the first point of the game. Forward Andrea Rockey '19 scored the second goal of the game off of another shot from Mackey, which was her team-leading eighth goal of the season. Senior forward Katie Parkman '17 had an assist on both goals, and her 17 points on the season have her almost at a one point per game average. Walter's shutout was aided by a league-leading defense, who top the NESCAC in scoring defense, penalty kill, and goals allowed. They shut down the Panthers' two power play opportunities, and their penalty kill percentage rose to 96.1 percent, which is second in all of Division III Women's Ice Hockey.

PHOTO BY JADE THOMAS '20

Women's hockey plays at home this Friday and Saturday.

On Jan. 28, Hamilton completed the monumental sweep of Middlebury, as the Continentals triumphed 2-1 with an exciting last-minute goal to break a 1-1 tie. Both of the Hamilton goals came on the power play yet again, with the Continentals notching the first goal in the opening period, courtesy of Jenna Jewell '18. Defender Michaella Giuttari '20 had an assist on the goal, raising her points to an impressive eight for a first-year defensive player. Middlebury scored on its third power play of five during the night, a shot from the point that bounced off of a Hamilton skate and into the goal.

The second period was a rough one for the Continentals, who withstood a ferocious Middlebury attack to escape with a 1-1 tie as the Panthers rifled off 18 shots to Hamilton's two over the course 10 minutes of power plays. On the game, Middlebury quadrupled Hamilton's shots on goal 36-9, which were staved off by Walther's fantastic goaltending. The tie continued deep into the third until the Rockey-Mackey combination on the power play paid off yet again: Rockey tipped in Mackey's shot with 1:48 left in the third to pull ahead of the Panthers. Middlebury pulled their goaltender only 8 seconds later, but the Continentals were able to hold their lead until the final buzzer.

Special teams prevailed during the weekend, with every one of the five goals scored by either team coming on the power play. Hamilton's sweep of Middlebury was not only record-setting, but also exciting in terms of playoff opportunities: the Continentals were able to knock the Panthers down three spots in the standings, efficiently establishing themselves as a powerhouse in NESCAC hockey. Mackey summed up the weekend best, saying "I think we just played a really, really good team game, team defense, and we scored and capitalized on all our opportunities." The Continentals return to the ice this weekend, for two key conference games against Bowdoin at Russell Sage Rink. The games are Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 3 p.m. and carry large implications for Hamilton's playoff seeding.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
February 2, 2017

Women's basketball returns to .500 with second NESCAC win over Middlebury

by Will Kaback '20
Opinion Editor

	1	2	F
Middlebury	27	35	62
Hamilton	**22**	**46**	**68**

	1	2	F
Wesleyan	32	14	46
Hamilton	**20**	**28**	**48**

A 2-6 start to the second half of one's season is certainly not ideal, but the women's basketball team has shown they are capable of bouncing back from adversity. After dropping their first two contests of the new year, the team pulled off back-to-back victories, only to lose their next four as the regular season entered the home stretch. Now, however, they are winners of two straight games once again, including an impressive defeat of the 14-4 Middlebury College Panthers last Saturday. With only four games remaining on their schedule, all against conference opponents, the team's newfound momentum will be tested. If the first three-quarters of their season is any indication, however, the team looks to be in a strong position heading into postseason play.

The team's potent offensive attack rests on the shoulders of a junior, a sophomore, and two first-years, in that order. Lauren Getman '18, Halie Serbent '19, Carly O'Hern '20 and Mackenzie Aldridge '20 are the team's top four scorers. Getman, a forward, leads the team with 10.2 points per game and brings a veteran presence to the court. Serbent, a guard-forward hybrid with a deft scoring touch, has shown the ability to blow open the game at any minute. In the recent win over Middlebury, Serbent led all scorers with 19 points and sparked a 13-2 run that put the Continentals ahead for good. It was just one of seven games this season where she has registered double digit points. First-years O'Hern and Aldridge have contributed 7.6 and 7.2 points per game, respectively, and should prove to be hallmarks of the program in future years. Aldridge, in particular, has adjusted seamlessly to the college level, starting 15 out of 17 games in her first season of collegiate play.

While much of the team's scoring power is concentrated among four or five players, the rest of the team has provided equally vital contributions in other areas of the stat sheet. For instance, Samantha Srinivasan '18 has proven to be an all-around player, compiling 6.4 points per game, a team-leading 6.4 rebounds per game, 1.6 assists per game, and 0.9 steals per game. Srinivasan is the centerpiece of the team's formidable rebounding force, which dominated Middlebury to the tune of a +8 rebound differential. In order to take down the tough conference foes that lie ahead, they'll need to keep up that type of effort.

PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

Halie Serbent '19 drives in the paint for a lay-up in Hamilton's win over Middlebury.

Additionally, captains Caroline Barrett '17 and Kate Bushell '17 are described by first-year player Camille Walter '20 as "the ideal team leaders." Walter says that Barrett "brings a lot of energy to our team and always keeps everyone laughing." Meanwhile, Bushell is "a hard worker and always brings a spark to our team when she hits the court." Leadership on and off the court from these two seniors will likely prove to

*see **W. Basketball**, page 15*

Women's hockey sweeps weekend against No. 6 ranked Middlebury

by Grace Myers '19
Sports Contributor

	1	2	3	F
#6 Middlebury	0	0	0	0
Hamilton	**0**	**2**	**0**	**2**

	1	2	3	F
#6 Middlebury	0	1	0	1
Hamilton	**1**	**0**	**1**	**2**

The Hamilton women's hockey team had an astounding series this past weekend, scoring two significant upset victories over nationally-ranked Middlebury College. With the wins, Hamilton pulled ahead of Amherst in the standings and is now in first place overall in the NESCAC, ahead of powerhouse Connecticut College. Middlebury went from second in the league to fifth during the course of the two days, courtesy of strong offensive and goaltending performances by Hamilton. Middlebury has never been swept in their home rink in a weekend series since the NESCAC league was established in 2001, a testament to just how impressive the Continentals' sweep this weekend was.

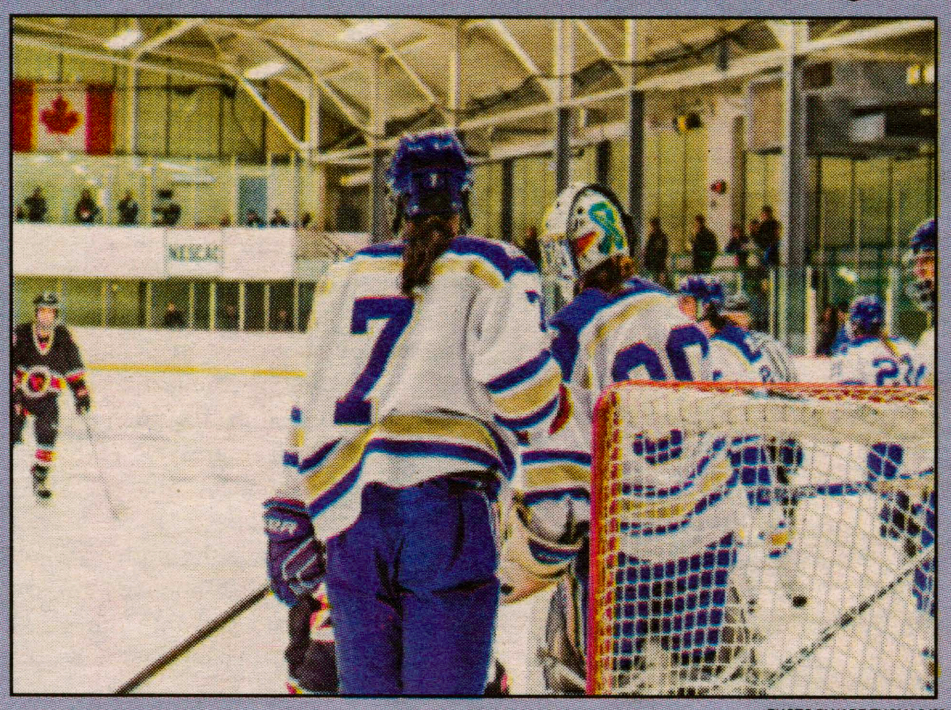

PHOTO BYJADE THOMAS '20

Sam Walther '18 shut-out the nationally ranked Panthers on Friday.

Forward Kelli Mackey '19, who posted 3 points on the weekend, emphasized the build-up to the weekend. "Middlebury has always been our rival; our coach went there," she said. "Our juniors and seniors, during their freshman and sophomore year, they were the 8th seed..." Hamilton went to Middlebury, who was the first seed, "...and [Middlebury] beat them in four overtimes." While the loss was difficult, it has provided motivation for the upper classmen: "It was a disappointing loss... [Middlebury has] always been the team to beat; every year in and out they're usually at the top of the NESCAC, so everyone always wants to knock them off."

*see **W. Hockey**, page 15*